

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a network architecture. The network architecture includes a central Interconnect Fabric 110, which is connected to a Network Manager 115 and a Node N+1 105. The Network Manager 115 and Node N+1 105 are both connected to the Interconnect Fabric 110 via a VI NIC. The Interconnect Fabric 110 is also connected to a Multi-Protocol Edge Switch (MPEX) 120, which is connected to an external network 125. The Interconnect Fabric 110 is composed of multiple IFM switches 110a, which are interconnected in a mesh topology. The Multi-Protocol Edge Switch (MPEX) 120 is connected to the Interconnect Fabric 110 via a VI NIC. The external network 125 is represented by a cloud shape.

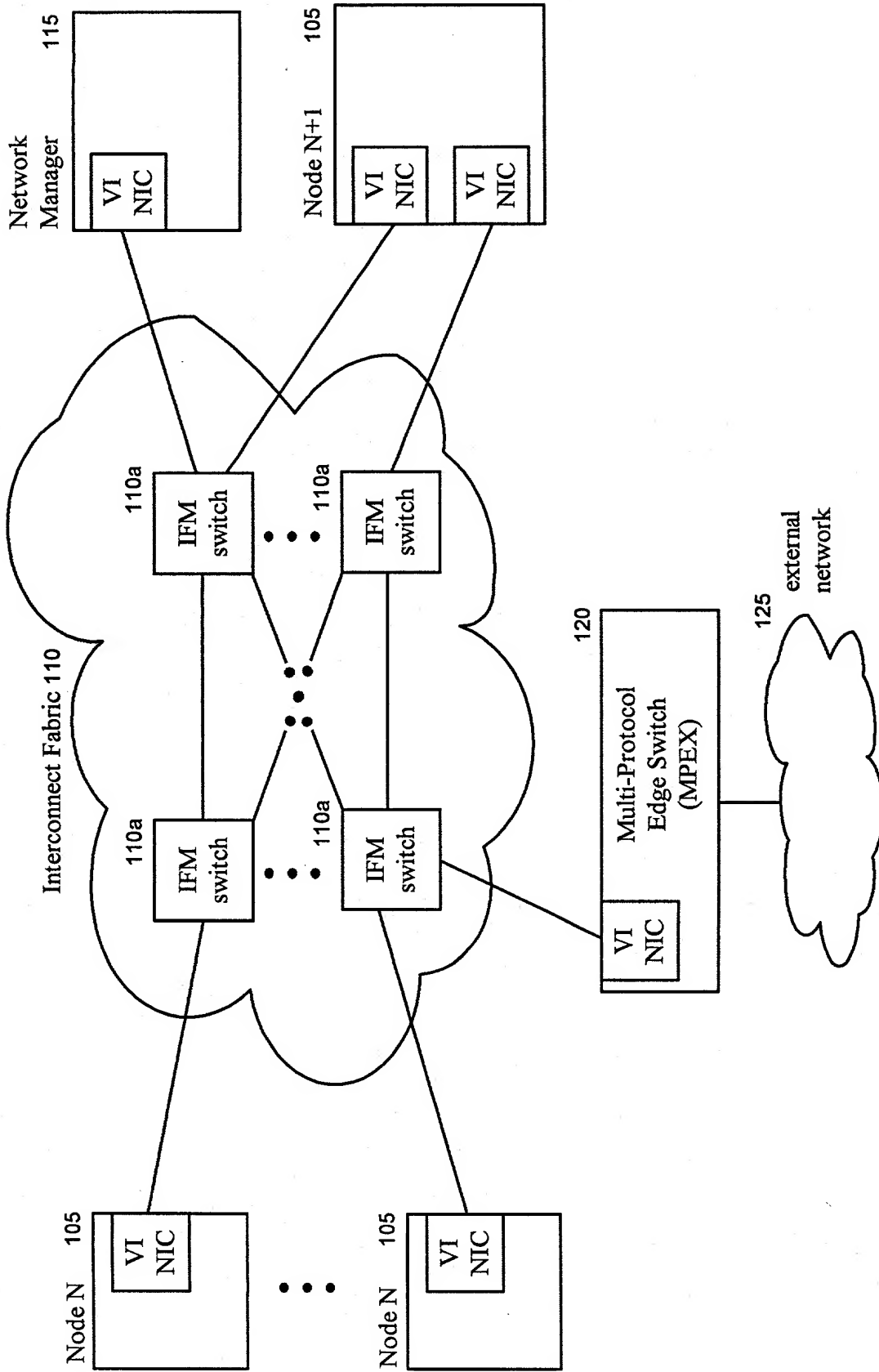


Fig. 1

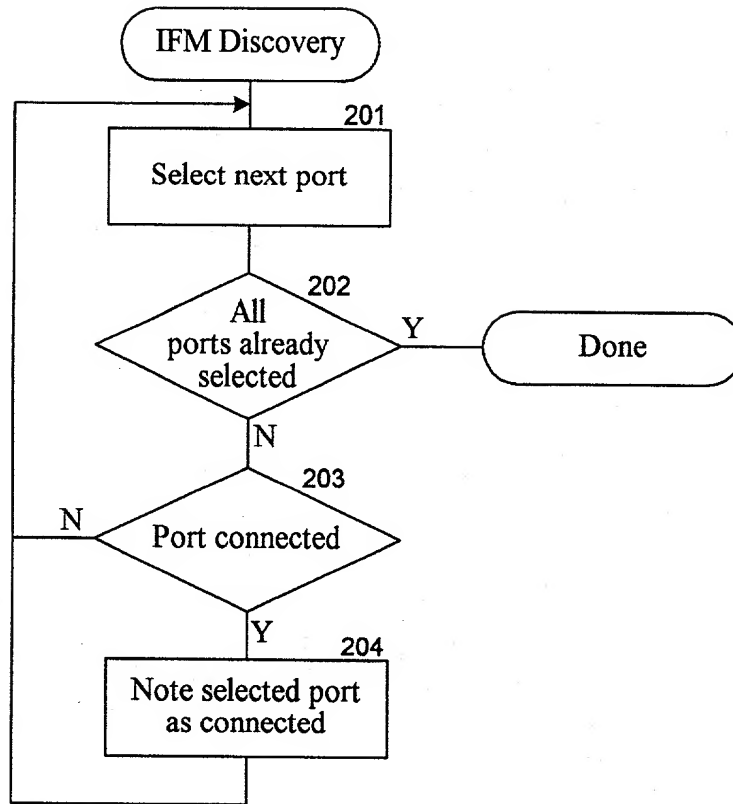


Fig. 2

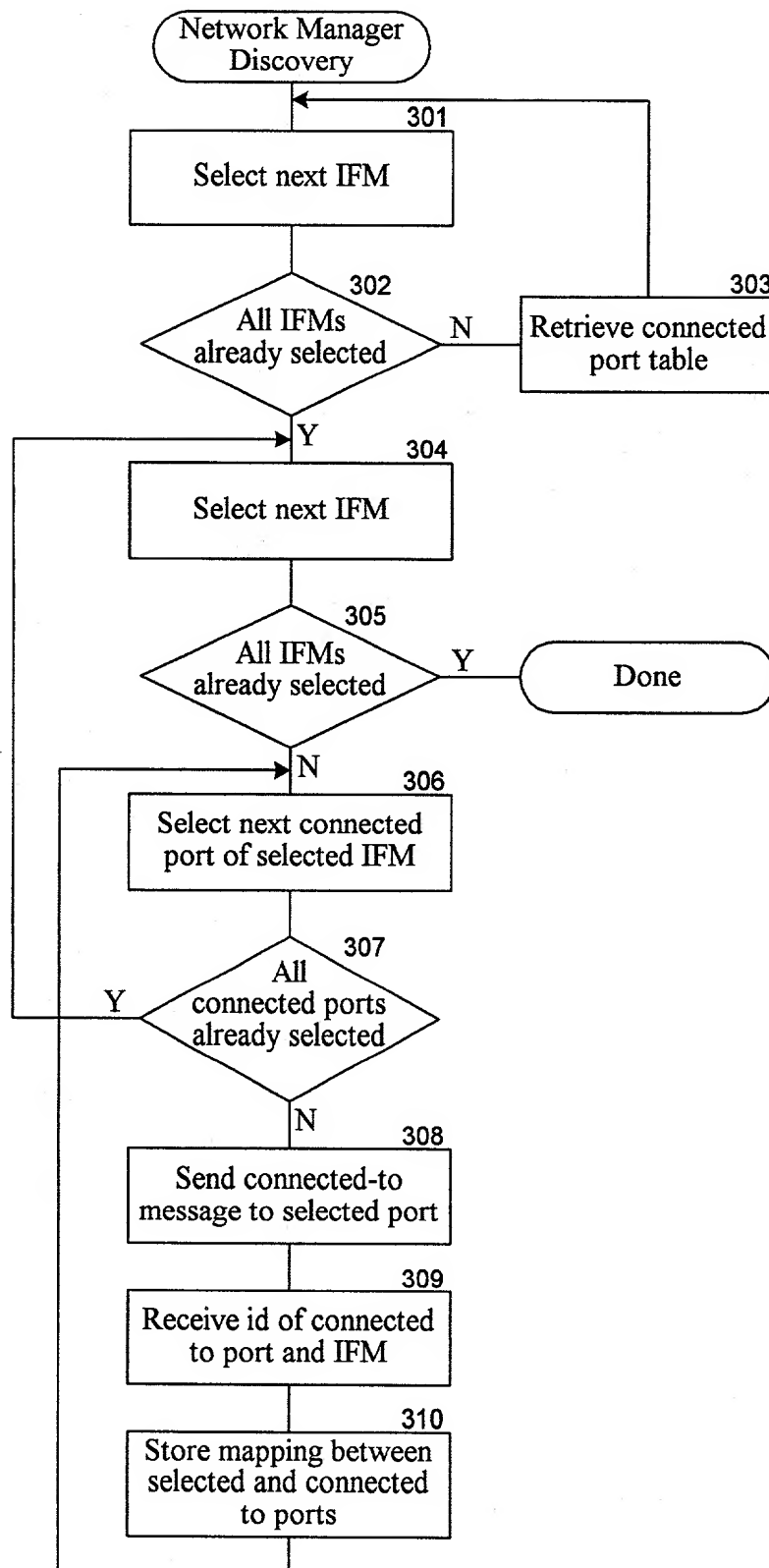


Fig. 3

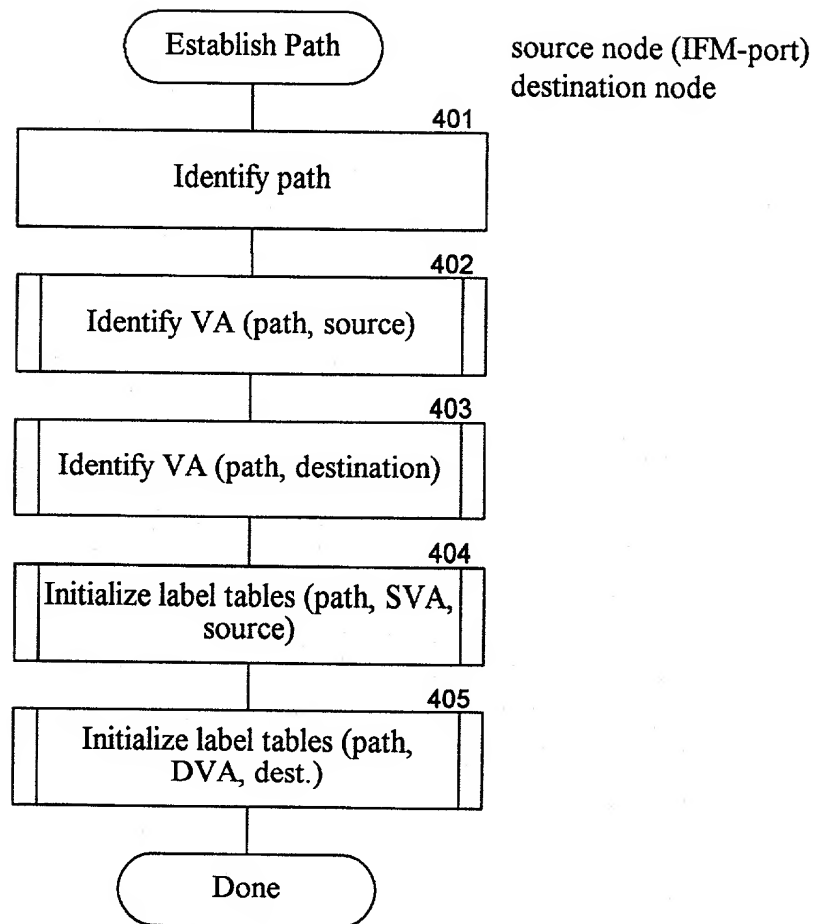


Fig. 4

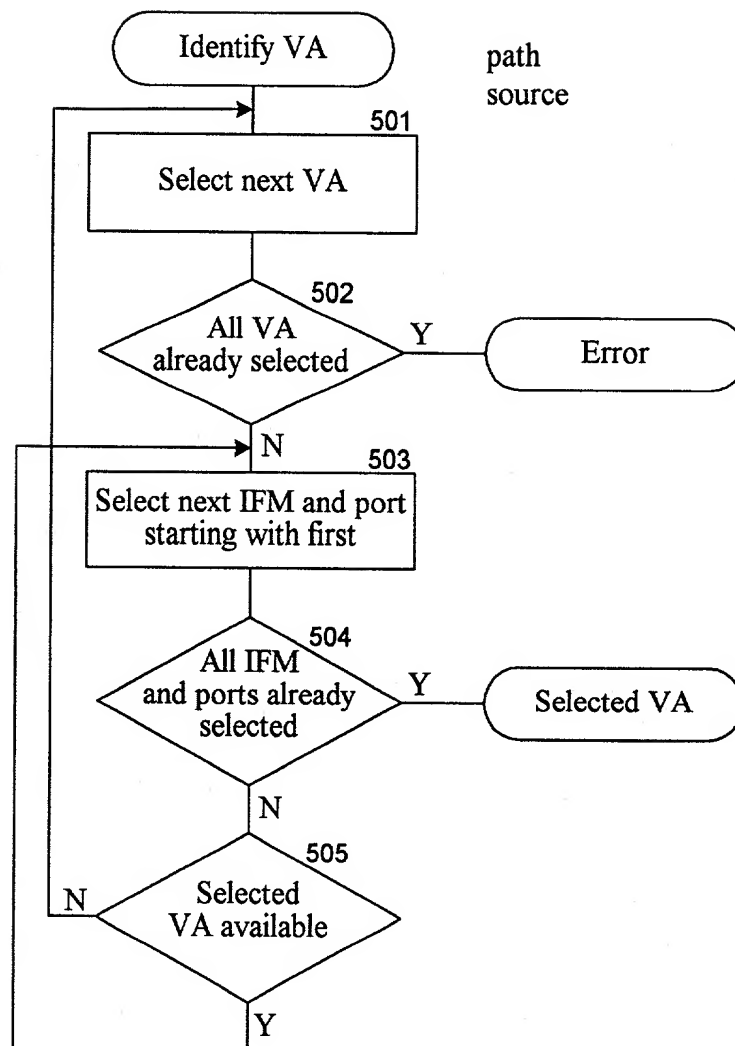


Fig. 5

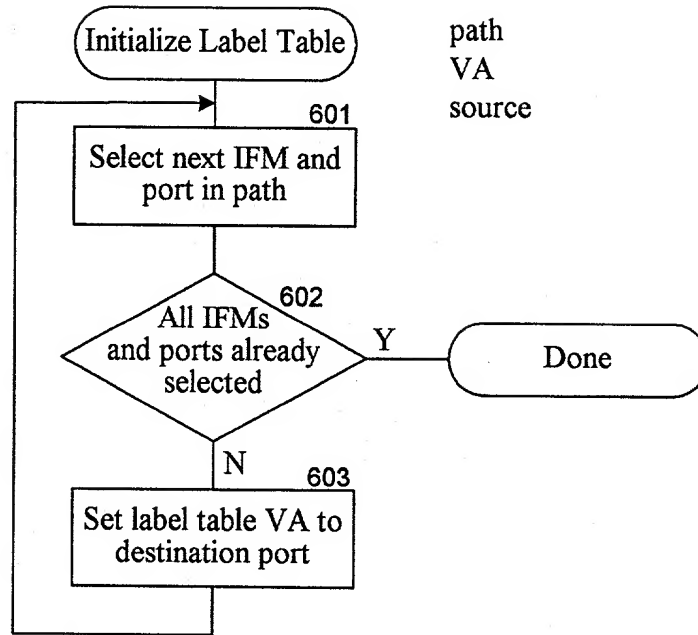


Fig. 6

FIG. 7 is a block diagram of a network architecture. The diagram shows a central "Cross Point Switch" block. To the left of this switch is a large rectangular block labeled "IFM". To the right of the switch is a large rectangular block labeled "Distributed Network Manager". The "Cross Point Switch" is connected to the "IFM" block by a horizontal line. The "Cross Point Switch" is also connected to the "Distributed Network Manager" block by a horizontal line. Above the "Cross Point Switch" block, there are three vertical lines, each ending in a dot, indicating multiple connections or inputs. Below the "Cross Point Switch" block, there are three vertical lines, each ending in a dot, indicating multiple connections or outputs.

IFM

...

...

Cross
Point
Switch

Distributed
Network Manager

Fig. 7

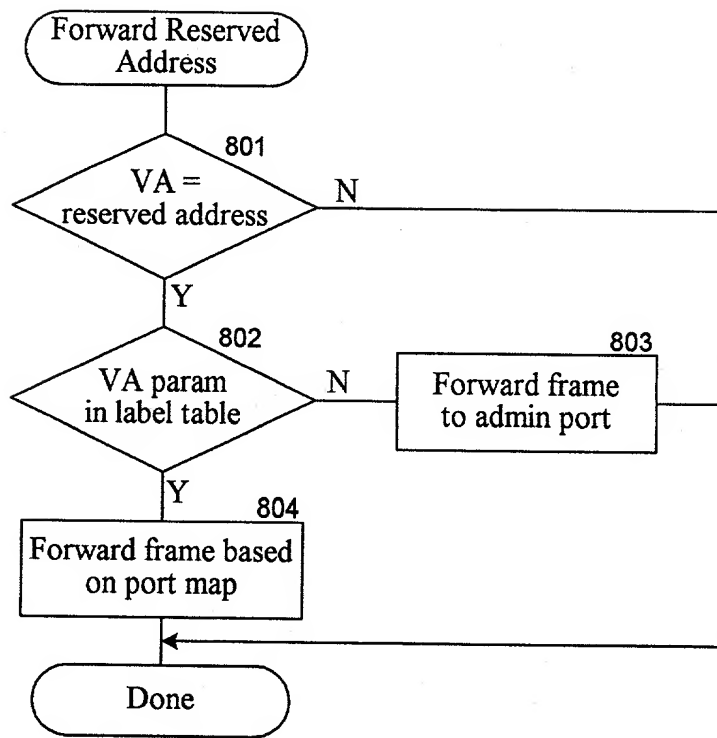


Fig. 8